Red House bull sale results noted

The Red House Junior Bull Sale Saturday sold 33 bulls worth $46,250.00, an average of $1402 per head.

There were 11 polled hereford bulls averaging $1285, 5 simmentals that averaged $1635, 1 charolais $1125 and 16 angus had a $1427 average.

Appomattox producers buying bulls were: W. C. Cox and Ralph Reynolds.

An added feature was the sale of 30 purebred heifers for $28,250.00, an average of $941. The 14 polled hereford heifers brought $13,725, averaging $980 and 16 angus heifers brought 14,525 for an average of $908.

Appomattox producers buying heifers were: Lisa Harrison and Gary Thomas.

The sale grossed $74,500.00.

Plaques were awarded by Farmers National Bank, Appomattox, to the high performing bulls.

The top performing angus bull was consigned by Tye Brook Farm, Piney River, Virginia. This bull had a 140 day ADG Ratio of 121 and a 365 day weight ratio of 108, averaging 114.5.

Top performing polled hereford bull was a Holly Hill Farm consignment from Mt. Sidney, Virginia. This bull had a 140 day ADG ratio of 122 and a 365 day weight ratio of 110, an average of 116.

The top performing group of 3 or more bulls was six angus bulls consigned by Maymont Farm, Timberville, Va., Russell May, owner. These bulls had a 140 day ratio of 108.3 and 365 day weight ratio of 109.2- averaging 108.75.

From last year

Fire cured tobacco prices up

By JAMES A. SMITH
Extension Agent

A meeting to help provide you with an indepth understanding of the Resource Conservation Act will be held March 13, 10:00 a.m. at the Prince Edward County Courthouse, Farmville.

One of the purposes of this program is to equip Virginia citizens with an understanding of the Soil and Water Conservation requirements and give them an opportunity to express opinions and concerns.

Soil and water are two very basic resources that must be protected if all is to survive.

* * *

The 1979 fire cured tobacco crop totaled 5,543,246 pounds averaged $107.13. Prices were up $12.57 from last year when we produced a 6.9 million pound crop.

The record year was 1976 when the crop averaged $117.15. The highest averaging day this past marketing season was opening day when it brought $122.59.

16 percent of the crop went into the pool as opposed to 25.7 percent a year earlier.

A breakdown by markets shows:

Blackstone	1,609,224 pounds	$100.64 average
Farmville	1,886,229 pounds	$108.50 average
Lynchburg	2,045,793 pounds	$100.98 average

The word we get is stay clear of the low pressure center pivot irrigation system. It has extremely high application rates. Excess soil and water losses offset energy savings.

* * *

Flue-tobacco growers will be interested in knowing that it takes approximately two cords of hardwood to replace 225 gallons of oil or gas for curing. Come by or call and ask for one.

* * *

The National January cattle report totaled 111 million head, just a fractional increase from last year's level, but down 5 percent from January 1, 1978.

In Virginia numbers were up 13%. The Commonwealth ranks 25th in cattle numbers, but ranked 2nd in absolute cattle increases in 1980.

The value of Virginia cattle and calves as of Jan. 1, 1980, averaged $460 compared with $355 in 1979 and $175 in 1976.

* * *

Recently we found a possible cause of mastitis in a Grade A heard in this county. Mastitis may be caused by relative high voltage in the metal of the milking room. One symptom is abnormal nervousness. Remember those cows came in without rubber boots--but handlers do not and may not be aware of the problem.

Better check your storage system now.

Monthly losses can run high when gasoline storage is incorrectly done. For example:

Red tank in Sun	9-10 gallons
White tank in Sun	6 gallons
Red tank in sun with pressure-vacuum relief valve	3.2 gallons
Tank in Shade	2.4 gallons
Tank in Shade with Pressure-vacuum relief valve	1.3 gallons
Underground Tank	Less Than 1 gallon

Illustrated talk program scheduled

Congratulations to all 4-H'ers who took part in Public

Happiness is 4-H

Speaking last week. County winners were Amy Morris, Beth Marston, Jennifer Coleman, Brian Hudson, Jo Ann Cameron, Brett Marston, Sherry Ferguson, Karen Stevens, Rhonda Nash and David Caldwell. A big thank you to Farmers National Bank for their continued sponsorship of 4-H Public Speaking.

* * *

David Caldwell will serve as coordinator for a 4-H Speakers Bureau in Appomattox. The 4-H Speaking group will offer speakers to provide programs for civic and community organizations. If your civic or community organization would like a 4-H Speaking program for one of your meetings, please call David at 352-8063.

* * *

The County Demonstration-Illustrated Talk program for Junior members will be Saturday, March 29, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Appomattox Elementary School. 4-H'ers should begin planning for their demonstrations and illustrated talks. Special workshops will be held in March.

* * *

The Southside Area Junior Livestock Show will be June 13 and 14 at the Five County Fairgrounds in Farmville. 4-H'ers may enter beef heifers, beef steers, market hogs and market lambs. There is still time to purchase feeder pigs or feeder lambs for this show. Have your parents give us a call if you're interested.

* * *

We mentioned earlier that cut-out bluebird houses were available from J. E. Sears & Co. at the price of $1.25 each. 4-H'ers with wildlife and woodworking projects may be interested in this. Now is the time to get the bluebird houses put up.

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Tobacco champs

TOBACCO GROWERS HONORED Monday night at the Dark-fired tobacco awards and educational meeting in Appomattox were (front, from left): William F. Baldwin (one acre, average $1.88per pound, 2671 pounds for $5021 total), Ernest Harris (4.13 acres, average $1.30 per pound, 2208 pounds for $4140 total), Floyd Nance (2.2 acres, average $1.42 per pound, 2530 pounds for $3592 total); (back row, from left) Wayne Booth, 2.12 acres, average $1.65 per pound, 1878 pounds for $3113.41 total), Jack Martin (5.27 acres, $1.96 average per pound, 2084 pounds for $3928 total), and Marvin Gibson, (7.5 acres, $1.53 average per pound, 1530 pounds for $2340.90 total).

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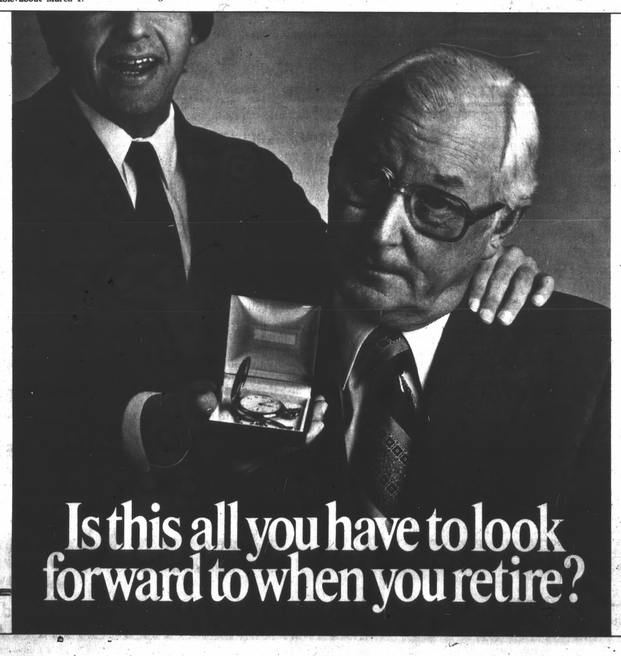

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Deadline for opening or adding to an IRA for 1979 is April 15, 1980.

Bees' honey makes money

Keeping bees on the farm is not a new idea but is one money-making operation often overlooked. Honey always has been a popular sweetener in the United States.

The sugar crisis of 1974 put honey into a very prominent position as a sugar substitute, said Richard D. Fell, Extension specialist in beekeeping at Virginia Tech.

A person interested in honey production should start small, advised Fell. For instance, it is far better to get acquainted with bees using only two to four hives than 100 hives. After the initial learning period, it is easy to expand a beekeeping operation.

Before entering into honey production on a large scale, look into the market. If the local market is open and moving honey is easy, you may desire to process a finished product. This includes filtering and heating, bottling, labeling and delivery.

In some areas, the local market is already full and the new producer may decide to ship the finished product to another location, often the nearest large city.

An alternative is to produce bulk honey and sell it to other processors. Prices are lower for bulk honey but less investment in equipment is involved.

To some farmers, keeping bees is a method of crop pollination. Crops such as fruit trees, watermelons and cucumbers all require insect pollination and honey bees are used extensively, Fell explained.

However, most large growers rent colonies of honey bees for this purpose. In Virginia, 4,000-5,000 colonies of bees are rented annually.

Since these crops are also sprayed for pest insects, it is important to close hives before and during spray applications to prevent killing the bees and losing investments. In situations where danger exists of exposing the bees to the spray, bees should be moved out of the area.

When setting up bee colonies, hives should be registered with the Virginia State Department of Agriculture so they may be inspected by an agent, said Fell.

There are a number of helpful U. S. Department of Agriculture booklets available including "Using Honey Bees to Pollinate Crops," "Shade and Water for the Honey Bee Colony," and "Pesticides and Honey Bees."

To obtain copies of these and other booklets, write to the Department of Entomology, Price Hall, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va. 24061 or contact a local Extension office.

Do you use drugs?

Most people use some form of drug daily - caffein in coffee, tea and soft drinks, aspirin, or prescribed medication. But, according to Trooper Dan Beamon, Virginia State Police Officer, far too many people ABUSE drugs in both legal and illicit forms.

Trooper Beamon conducted a slide presentation and question-and-answer session at the February meeting of the Junior Chapter Future Homemakers of America at Appomattox Middle School. Students were told about the dangers of abusing drugs in any form, especially highly illegal "street drugs" such as marijuana, cocaine, and "uppers and downers". He answered many questions about the effects and dangers of several drugs and explained laws dealing with possession and sale of illegal drugs. Beamon urged students to protect themselves and their friends by being informed and helping to eliminate this serious problem in our society.

Drunk drivers still threat to safety

The drunk driver continued to pose a serious threat to highway safety in Central Virginia during 1979 as arrests for driving under the influence of intoxicants (DUI) reached a new high of 1,343.

According to the annual report just released by the Central Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program, this represents a six percent increase over the 1,269 DUI arrests made in 1978 throughout the Central Virginia Planning District.

During the same year, the Planning District's traffic fatalities decreased 36.7% from 49 in 1978 to 31 in 1979. The Planning District is composed of the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford and Campbell and the cities of Bedford and Lynchburg.

Police made 138 DUI arrests in Appomattox County in 1979 and Appomattox Courts referred 72 DUI defendants to the Central Virginia ASAP for alcohol education.

The average blood alcohol concentration of Appomattox referrals was .19%. Average age was 37 and 92% of Appomattox referrals were male. Thirty-five of the defendants referred from Appomattox graduated and 14 were dropped for failure to comply with program standards.

A second DUI arrest was the most common infraction resulting in dismissal.

Appomattox County is represented on the Central Virginia ASAP Policy Advisory Board by the Rev. J. Harmon Smith. Also serving on the Board from Appomattox is Mr. Robert H. Gray, Jr.

In releasing the report, Central Virginia ASAP's Executive Director Lea T. Townes noted that in the five years from 1975 through 1979, DUI arrests more than doubled in Central Virginia.

"I believe that this is another good example of the aggressive law enforcement which has helped to give Virginia one of the lowest highway death rates in the United States," Townes added.

The Central Virginia ASAP was jointly established by the four counties and two cities of the Central Virginia Planning District in 1976 to provide the area with a self-supporting systems approach for dealing with the drunk driver. The four countermeasures which comprise the system are Law Enforcement Support, Case Management, Defendant Education, and Public Information. The operations of the entire program are funded by a two hundred dollar fee collected from each DUI defendant referred by the courts for alcohol education.

In 1979, Law Enforcement Countermeasure activities included sponsoring six area lawmen in attending school designed to improve their expertise in DUI enforcement and providing 1,670 alcolysers to area law enforcement agencies.

The program provided Case Management services to the courts for 909 DUI defendants in 1979. Case Managers classify each DUI defendant referred and match him with an educational package appropriate for his level of alcohol involvement. They track each defendant's progress and advise the court of his success or failure.

In 1979, 714 DUI defendants successfully completed the alcohol education program assigned to them. Another 222 defendants were dropped for failure to comply with program regulations. Since the Central Virginia ASAP was established in March 1976, 2,046 participants have graduated from the program.

The Public Information countermeasure attempts to provide all Central Virginians with information on alcohol and its effect on highway safety and to encourage each individual to become personally involved in keeping potential drunk drivers off of the highway.

"The ASAP system is well designed and has tremendous potential to benefit the community," concluded Director Townes. "But we realize that the success of our efforts to deal with the drinking driver problem ultimately rests on the people of Central Virginia who will take whatever action is necessary to keep their friends from driving drunk."

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Sixth-grade registration planned

Parents of students in the present sixth grade are invited to attend a discussion of the course offerings and registration procedures for the school year 1980-81 to be held as follows:

Date and Time	Place
Mon., March 3 at 9:00 a.m.	Cafeteria, Appo. Elem. School
Mon., March 3 at 11:30 a.m.	Pamplin Elementary School
Mon., March 3 at 8:00 p.m.	Cafeteria, Appo. Middle School

The purpose of each of these meetings are to familiarize parents and students with the course offerings that will be available and to explain registration procedures for the school year 1980-81. Personnel from the schools and the school board staff will be present to lead the discussion and to answer questions. It is hoped that parents will be present for one of the meetings that has been scheduled.

'Baby talk' is real

Some persons seem to have a happy facility to get along with young babies immediately.

"Children just seem to naturally like them," described Kathleen W. Wampler, Virginia Tech Extension specialist in family development.

What these persons seem to have instinctively is something that others can learn about if they want to, she continued. These persons seem to be most aware of the signals the infants are giving about need for attention or when to change games or when to stop playing altogether.

"The infant is a master at non-verbal communication," Miss Wampler said in a publication written with Victoria R. Fu. Both are assistant professors in Virginia Tech's College of Home Economics.

But the signals the infant gives are subtle and can be easily overlooked unless the caregiver is seeking them.

When "attending," babies reach out, cooing, eyes open and dilating; arms and legs jerking forward. Their faces brighten. When babies are "non attending," their eyes move away from the caregiver's face; they pull their hands and arms toward themselves; grasp their clothing; or simply turn aside.

"When the babies are 'non attending,' they are turning you off," Miss Wampler said. "It is as if they are saying 'I've had enough of this.'" Depending on the situation, it can also mean, "I don't want to play anymore," "leave me alone," or "I'm tired of this game, let's play a different game, I'm bored."

Learning to be sensitive to non-verbal communications from even the smallest infant is one of the secrets to enjoying playing with children.

To attend Chowan College

Kimberly Dale Hipps of Pamplin, a senior at Appomattox County High School has been accepted for admissions to Chowan College for the fall semester beginning August 24, 1980.

Chowan College is a two-year, co-educational, residential college, for students wishing to pursue the baccalaureate degree in senior colleges and universities.

Chowan College has an enrollment of approximately 1,050 students representing 25 states and 14 foreign countries.

Chowan offers opportunities in 12 professional fields: business, English, fine arts (music and art) graphic arts, photography, health and physical education, language, mathematics, religion and philosophy, science, and social science.

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